



LASSEN COUNTY
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES

December 5, 2002, 1:30 p.m.
1345 Barry Creek Plaza, Suite B
Susanville, California

Commissioners Present: Sheral Thorlaksson, Karol Merten, Doug McCoy, Elizabeth Elam, Jim Chapman, Janice Irvin, , Mae Sherman, Patsy Jimenez, Kathy Colvin Alternate,

Commissioners Absent: Brian Dahle Alternate, Shannon Gerig Alternate, Bobby Malone

Community Members: Lisa Holmstrom, Robin Jones, Janet Lasick, Jean Hodge, Barbara Tiner, BJ Ponting, Mary Ann Murin,

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Chairperson, Karol Merten called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. The Chairperson welcomed everyone, and all introduced themselves.

2. **Approval of Agenda:** Commissioner Irvin moved that the agenda be approved as presented, Commissioner Jimenez seconded the motion, there was no discussion, and the motion was unanimously approved. There were no abstentions.

3. **Consent Calendar:** The consent calendar was presented. Commissioner Chapman moved to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted. Commissioner Sherman seconded the motion, there was no discussion, and the motion unanimously passed with no abstentions. The Consent Calendar covered the following items:

SUBJECT: Approval of Minutes LCCFC Meetings of November 7, 2002
SUBJECT: Approval of Fiscal Report

4. **Mini Grant Requests:** **Susanville District Library** submitted a mini grant request for a children's literacy project. After lengthy discussion over duplication of services, it was moved by Commissioner Jimenez, and seconded by Commissioner McCoy that the grant not be approved as submitted. The project was not funded.

The **Community Planning and Advisory Council** submitted a mini grant application to fund curriculum or the Home Visiting Project. There was lengthy discussion surrounding the request. It was moved by Commissioner Elam to reject the request for funding. Commissioner Sherman seconded the motion, and it carried with abstentions from Commissioners Merten, Irvin, and Jimenez. The votes were polled and there were 3 votes to not fund the mini grant as submitted, and two votes to fund the project. It was requested that the matter be brought back to the Commission at a later date for consideration of funding from something other than mini grants. It was felt that a mini grant application was not an appropriate venue for the request.

The **Oral Health Task Force** requested a mini grant to fund a Fluoride Varnish project. After lengthy discussion, it was referred back to the Task Force for additional information especially regarding insurance

5: **Adoption of Equity Principles:** Information on the Equity Principles was inadvertently omitted from the packets. The matter was tabled until the next meeting.

6. **Creating Safe Environments for Children:** BJ Ponting and Mary Ann Murin presented a request to the Commission to consider the development of an opportunity for agencies and individuals to collaborate on creating safe environments for children. The effect of violence on brain growth and development was discussed. Commissioners Irvin and Elam have previously attended the "Safe From the Start" conference presented by the Attorney General's Office and indicated that a great deal of information and even public speakers are available through the AG's program. Commissioner Elam stated that there is information and a curriculum in her department at Lassen College on the topic. It was suggested that the Commission staff help coordinate an initial meeting of interested individuals to begin discussion around the topic. Alternate Commissioner Colvin indicated that the Strong Families Coalition perhaps would be an appropriate forum for beginning the discussion. A form was passed around to obtain names of individuals interested in working on the project. Those that signed up are Patsy Jimenez, Jim Chapman, Barbara Tiner, Kathleen Colvin, BJ Ponting, Mary Ann Murin, Jan Irvin, Sheral Thorlaksson, Mae Sherman, Karol Meten, and Elizabeth Elam. Kathleen Colvin will schedule this on the agenda of the next Strong Families Coalition. It was suggested that the video from the Attorney General's Office be shown at a noon hour time at the Commission Meeting Room. This preferably will occur more than once during the months of January and February.

7. **Sustainability and Fiscal Leveraging Plan:** It was stated by Chairman Merten that a committee meeting needs to occur to begin discussion of the many aspects of the sustainability and leveraging plans. December 16 at noon was suggested as a date. Those expressing interest in attending were Jim Chapman, Karol Merten, Mae Sherman, and Barbara Tiner.

8. **Reports:** Barbara Tiner reported on the Westwood Family Resource Center progress as well as the Big Valley FRC. Lisa Holmstrom reported on the AmeriCorps Home Visiting Project, stating that an additional AmeriCorps person has been hired for Westwood. The remaining workers should be on board by January, however there is a hiring freeze on currently, so no additional AmeriCorps workers will be hired until the hiring freeze is lifted.

Jean Hodge reported on the process of the Lassen Oral Health Task Force. They are meeting on the 2nd and 4th Mondays each month. She stated that the "Dentists With A Heart" day is progressing and is scheduled in February 2003. This will be a day in February

when participating dentists will open their offices to children for a broad range of services, all performed at no charge. Some of the Oral Health Task Force Activities include public education and awareness, public speaking, training, a fluoride varnish program, equipment research.

9. **Open Comment:** Robin Jones, Family Support Division, stated that their office is now located on Chestnut Street. They have a conference room for use if needed. She also stated they could place brochures, etc. in their waiting room.

Items for the next agenda should include a discussion of a policy concerning the term limits of alternate commission positions.

10. **Adjourned:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura J. Roberts
Executive Director